

Message Text

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ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 PA-01

USIA-06 PRS-01 SP-02 AID-05 COME-00 EB-07 FRB-03

TRSE-00 XMB-02 OPIC-03 CIEP-01 LAB-04 SIL-01 OMB-01

CU-02 /057 W

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R 061155Z AUG 75

FM AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 440

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FOLLOWING REPEAT MADRAS 1092 SENT ACTION NEW DELHI

INFO BOMBAY/CALCUTTA DTD 5 AUG 75

QUOTE:

MADRAS 1092

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PINT, IN

SUBJECT: POLITICAL SITUATION IN SOUTH INDIA, 8/5

1. AUGUST 5 TAMIL PRESS REPORTS THAT LEADER OF CPI IN TAMIL NADU LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY PRESENTED A MEMORANDUM TO GGI HOME MINISTER BRAHMANANDA REDDY IN MADRAS AUGUST 3 ASKING THAT TAMIL NADU LEGISLATURE SHOULD BE CONVENED TO RATIFY 39TH AMENDMENT AND ALLEGING, INTER ALIA, THAT GOVT IS MISUSING MISA AGAINST OPPOSITION PARTIES. ONE PAPER REPORTS MAIN PURPOSE OF REDDY'S VISIT WAS TO TALK WITH KAMARAJ, ON WHOM HE CALLED FOR 15-MINUTE MEETING, AND TO BRING HIM MESSAGE FROM MRS. GANDHI.

2. CENTRAL TAX ENFORCEMENT AUTHORITIES IN MADRAS HAVE BEEN INSPECTING SELECTED POSH RESIDENTIAL BUILDINGS DURING THE PAST FEW DAYS TO DETECT BLACK MONEY DIVERTED TO HOUSE CONSTRUCTION,
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AVOIDANCE OF WEALTH AND INCOME TAXES, AND UNDERVALUATION OF

PROPERTIES. A SPOKESMAN OF THE CENTRAL TAX AUTHORITY SAID THEIR JOB WAS DIFFICULT BECAUSE THEY HAD NOT SEEN SUCH LUXURY BEFORE, AND THEY HAVE SOUGHT THE ASSISTANCE OF VARIOUS EXPERTS, INCLUDING INTERIOR DECORATORS, TO HELP THEM VALUE THE PROPERTIES THEY ARE INSPECTING.

3. THE COLLECTOR OF CUSTOMS IN MADRAS TOLD THE PRESS THAT CONTINUOUS CUSTOMS RAIDS ON SMUGGLERS HAVE GREATLY REDUCED THEIR OPERATIONS AND THERE WERE NOW HARDLY ANY SHOPS IN MADRAS SELLING SMUGGLED GOODS.

4. RAILWAY AUTHORITIES ROUNDED UP 293 URCHINS AND BEGGARS FROM MADRAS CENTRAL RAILWAY STATION OVER THE WEEKEND IN CONTINUATION OF THEIR DRIVE TO RID THE STATIONS OF THE SQUATTERS AND OTHER HUMAN IMPEDIMENTS TO NAVIGATION ON THE PLATFORMS. THERE HAS BEEN A NOTABLE IMPROVEMENT IN THE CLEANLINESS AND GENERAL APPEARANCE OF BOTH MADRAS STATIONS IN RECENT WEEKS.

5. LESS THAN A WEEK AFTER THEY WERE ADJOURNED SINE DIE AFTER THREE-DAY "EMERGENCY SESSIONS," BOTH HOUSES OF KARNATAKA LEGISLATURE HAVE BEEN SUMMONED FOR A ONE-DAY SESSION ON AUGUST 9 TO "TRANSACT OFFICIAL BUSINESS."

6. THE GOVERNMENT OF KERALA AUGUST 4 ORDERED THAT NO COLLEGE UNION ELECTIONS WOULD BE HELD IN THE STATE DURING THE CURRENT ACADEMIC YEAR.

7. A. K. ANTONY, PRESIDENT OF KPCC(R), TGLD THE TRIVANDRUM DISTRICT CONGRESS COMMITTEE AUGUST 1 THAT THE EMERGENCY WAS DECLARED TO DEFEAT THE CONSPIRACY HATCHED BY RIGHT REACTIONARIES AND COMMUNAL FORCES WITH THE SUPPORT OF IMPERIALIST POWERS. THE ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF THE KERALA CPI ON AUGUST 3 SAID THERE WAS ACTIVE US SUPPORT BEHIND THE COUNTER REVOLUTION LAUNCHED IN INDIA. HE SAID SOME WHO HAD LED THE PLOT IN CHILE LEADING TO THE MURDER OF ALLENDE WERE OPERATING IN THE DIPLOMATIC FIELD IN INDIA.

8. A BUSINESSMAN FROM KERALA TOLD US YESTERDAY THAT MANY SMALL TRADERS AND SHOPKEEPERS ARE COMPLAINING THAT OFFICIALS THERE ARE MISUSING THEIR POWERS TO HARASS THEM AND THAT SOME LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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OFFICIALS ARE ALSO MISUSING THEIR POWERS IN PERSONAL VENDETTAS. EAVES

UNQUOTE.
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